

Amendments to the Specification

Page 1, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 15-25 with the following rewritten paragraph:

As a means for detecting analytes present in biological samples, biosensors having a large variety of detection systems have been proposed. Of such biosensors, sensors utilizing surface plasmon resonance (SPR) are sensitive to changes in refractive index at and near the surface of a metal film (e.g., see A. Szabo, et al., Curr. Opin. Struct. Biol., 5 (1995) 699 – 705). SPR allows in situ observation of procedures taking place between the surface and a complex biological solution and renders available real time analyte data, without the use of, e.g., a marker. Hence SPR is suitable for collection of kinetic and thermodynamic parameters, and SPR-utilizing sensors are one of those drawing keen attention nowadays.